CHRISTMAS CARROL.

Y MISS ROSETTI

In the bleak mid winter Fresty wind made mosa; 3 Blanth stood hard as fron, Water like a stone; Snow had fallen, snow on snow, In the blenk mi l-winter g ago.

II. Our God, heaven can not hold Him

Nor earth sustain, Heaven and earth shall flee away When He comes to reign; In the blenk mid-winter A stable-place sufficed The Lord God Almighty-

III. Exough for Him whom Cherubins Worship night and day, A breastful of milk

Jenus Christ.

And a mangerful of hay: Enough for Him whom Argels Fad down before. The ox and Las and camel Which adore.

IV. Angels and Archangels May have gathered there, Cherubim and Seraphim

Thronged the air; But only His Mother In her maiden bliss Worshiped the Beloved With a klso.

What can I give Him, Poor as I amy-If I were a Shepherd I would bring a lamb-I would do my part-Vet what I can't give Him-

THE ST. WARDESS' STORY.

It was right on the Atlantic, and the stewardess of the steamship City of — was preparing herself for bed, all the lady passengers having retired to their berths, when her attention was called by a low tap at the cabin door. It seemed to be given by a cau-tious finger, unwilling to be heard further than was necessary; and, supposing it to be a warning from the steward that it was time to put out the lights, she glanced at her watch in surprise, and then going to the door, she exclaimed:

diate reply, as Mrs. Ford opened the door to one of the hady passengers. The young woman entered, and after closing the door, to one of the lady passengers. The young woman entered, and after closing the door, she addressed the stewardess in a low, cautious tone, while holding and turning over a long, thin parce', which she drew outfrom the door.

He leared to compromise Mrs. Ford; proposed Mrs. Ford; propose

earbor to-morrow, and we don't want to have this little parcel overhauled at the custom house. Do put it in your trunk till we

Mrs. Ford hesitated. Of course, it was not her business to disoblige passengers;

looked something uncommonly like it. Still the lady who made the request was Still the lady who made the request was well known to the stewardess, and seemed evade the hands which began at once to rearticularly friendly to her. It was not the irst time she and her husband had crossed quite like friends. Moreover, this time Mr. ad Mrs. Seaton had an additional charm for Mrs. Ford, being accompanied by their infant son, a fine, lively little fellow, about two years old. Mrs. Seaton had kept her barth, on plea of sinkness, for most of the voyage, and the stewardess had profited by the occasion to become nurse to the child, a charge she gladly necepted, and fulfilled

Observing that the hesitated, Mrs. Senton continued, in a half-careless, half-flattering

"I told thy husband you were so goodnatured, I was sure you would oblige us in a trifle of this kind; but of course, if you would rather not, there is an end of it . matter. We hope if we are not disappointed, to make quite a fertune for little Fred ly.— But if this is injured, by carelessness," here she again glanced at the parcel in her husband will be awful mad "

"I would be very glad to oblige you, madam; but it would be very awkward. if I got mixed up with any smuggling matters. The Company would dismiss me, and

one must think of oneself." "Sauggling !" said Mrs. Seaton, smiling "goodness! this is no smuggling. most innocent little machine in the world. I am sure, kind as you have been to us, I would be the last person to be o mean as to injure you. I guess it will do you no harm, any way. It would be too inkind to get you into trouble, when you have been so good to Freddy all along.

"I am sure, you were welcome to any thing I could do for the little darling, madin; but it is quite another thing—"
"Yes, yes; I know that. But, bless you, it will not burryou. It is a machine for making spools and my husband wants to

pat n' it in the States; but then it is in just such a condition now, that, if it be meddled with, it will be runed, that's all. If they do, by any chance, get hold of it, we must put up with its being spoiled; but I guess they will never interfere with you." Mrs. Ford remembered, now, that, du-

that it was in the manufacture of simliar arti-les he was at present engaged, and, without further hesitation, she took the par-The great weight of the article, compared with its bulk, surprised her as she in. excived it; it being, as she thin bar of irou, about six inches broad and two feet long, but not, apparently, much recognised her voice, thicker than a piece of card board. She "Oh, Captain Stebl thought of this as she laid it in the top of she cried, as she saw him "See what they her trunk, having a misgiving whether it are doing to me; they've been searching me thought of this as she laid it in the top of

Ford on forgot the matter in sleep.

Late in the atternoon of the following day, as they drew near the end of their ovage, just before going ashore at the to age, first of the going association for the cost on-house, Mrs. Seaton sought another lette-a-tete, with Mrs. Ford. She held in er hand two letters, and, offering them to the stewardess, asked if she would slip them in her pucket, "And besides," she con-I want you to come ashore with me, and carry Freddy, it you do not mind

Mrs. Ford replied that she had no object

Scaton, "do say you will, right away. I am in trouble. I am in trouble; and I am sure, when you know it, you will leave the

has got himself in a tight place, just now, and I guess I shall have enough on my hands as seen as we get ashore. We know there's a policeman waiting for him." "A peliceman!" cried Mrs. Ford, in

am in trouble.

government, and he has got wrong in his accounts. It is not much, but he will be ar"She will come rested as soon as he steps ashore, and all the business of getting my things through will fall on me. So you see I do want a friend. and I shall feel real bad if you do not help

"Well, of course we had rather it would not happen," was the reply: "but what's the use of thinking of that? The real thing is to get out of it as quick as possible. Mr. Seaton has friends who will come forward right away, just as soon as they know it, and that is why I want you to carry the letters ashore for me. Put them in your pocket, there's a good soul, and keep them till I ask for them, and Mr. Seaton will not he in this difficulty more than a few days. What it would be if I could not mail those

letters at once, I really could not say."

Mrs. Ford slipped the letters into the pocket of her loose-cloth jacket, and arranging with the under-stewardess that she would be back as soon as possible, prepared to accompany Mrs. Scaton at once.

They reached the shore, and, after land-

ing at the custom house wharf, as Mrs. Seaton had anticipated, a policeman quickly arrested her husband, who quickly walked off with him. after exchanging a signifi-cant glance with his wife. "I told you so," whispered she to Mrs. Ford, who had been a few steps behind, with the child in her a-ms, but who now drew nearer expecting to find the bereaved wife in great distress. This, however, was not the case. Mrs Sea ton was far more composed than her com-panion, who felt too much frightened and puzzled to pay attention to anything around her, or she would have observed the scrapulous care with which the buggage of the passengers was examined. Mrs. Scaton was actively engaged in opening her boxes. She paraded rather ostentatiously certain new articles of apparel, and drew the officers attention to her silks and gloves.

"Oh, yes," she said quite carelessly, she prison. knew the would have duly to pay for those things, and was quite ready to do so. She had no wish to smuggle, not she, indeed. had no wish to smuggle, not she, indeed. The collect eyed her keenly through his half-closed eyes, and continued his examination with tainute care, quite different from the steward that it was time a put out the lights, she glanced at her watch in surprise, and then going to the loor, she exclaimed:

"Why; Mr. Green, it is not 11 yet, and I man of quite ready. Wait a bit."

"It is not Mr. Green," replied a value out.

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It is not quite ready.

It is not out the great gateway and prepared to quit the wharf in mental triumaph.

this way for a minute. Allow me"—and to justice as evidence against the prisoner, bowing and backing as if he had been groom. He feared to compromise Mrs. Ford:

thous tone, while nothing and turning over along, thin parcel, which she drew out from the towel lossely wrapped around it.

Here stood two women whom the stew- and somewhat startled at what searchers, and somewhat startled at what ever they acted as they believed to be safest searchers. had occurred, she said at once there must and best, and least likely to involve innobe some mistake, she was stewardess of the cent parties; and according to the rule, that City of—, and was anxious to return on i is better the guilty should escape rather board at once, having come on shore only than that

to carry Mrs. Seaton's baby.

You shall go as soon as we have done with you." replied the searcher, with some when the last morsel of paper had disapbut, then smuggling was dangerous, this thing of a sneer; "but whether on heard peared, "there's another thing of theirs I or not depen is on other matters. Come, have;" and she told the story of the parcel

the Atlantic in the same ship; so they were already such old acquaintances as to seem most serene philosophy, although any one "I who had watched her carefully would have the keys. Shall I go on board seen an auxious glauce at Mrs. Ford's cloth throw it out of the window?" jacket. The searcher took it off, thre z it on the beach, and Mrs. Seaton, with affected carelessness immediately laid over it a large "My good Mrs. Ford you and I know it will be useless to search either of us," said she. "We have not the first bit of snug-

gled goods about us; at least I can answer for myself; and as for you. I know you had no notion coming ashore, except to carry Freddy, why of course, you have not either Freddy is not contraband, I suppose," she added, laughing; "so I guess these good 14dies will have their trouble for their pains. was the one to fear the result, cared for Take it casy, do now; there's a good woman. But it was no use saying "Take it casy,"

to Mrs. Ford. It must be an exceedingly unpleasant operation. I should imagine, being searched by a strange woman, who being searched by a strange woman, who strips her victim in a cool, business-like means, a messenger arrived from the city of way, regardless alike of shyness and delica-cy. The stewardess knew that it was uncalled for, and felt it an insult. Even to pass engers the thing is rarely done, unless under very suspicious circumstances; an! she, having been so often in that port with- quested Mr. Green the cabin steward, p out ever passing through the hands, could not understand why she should lying on the top, and pitch it into the river. now be subjected to this degradation. She in due time, Albert, brought back a me would not submit quietly. She pushed age to say her orders had been complied away the coarse hands which intruded on with, and all was safe. her womanly technics of delicacy. She shrank from the examination, she cried, she sobbed, she grew hysterical; and, her nersobbed, she grew hysterical; and hysteric vous excitenent being mistaken for guilt that there was no one else present, pro she was in co se qui nee subjected to a more duced the identical parcel which she has rigorous examination. Every part of her believed was safely stowed away in the bar cothing was felt; even her hair and her boots were ex mined, while each moment she became more painfully agliated, and her and keep that dreadful thing?" sobs and outerles grew louder.

The process was nearly completed, and thing?" replied he. "I am sure I don't; and I thought, before we throw it away, we uproar in the little room attracted attention uprear in the little room attracted attention without. For, added to Mrs. Ford's hys- call Park, now, and we will just take a look terical screams, were the remonstrances ring the last voyage, Mr. Scaton had partic- the searchers, delivered in the highest key plefy admired a new kind of spool which of a Yankee voice, the attempt of soothing the had seen in her work box, and had asked on Mrs. Seaton's part, and the loud cries several questions concerning it; so she con- of Master Freddy, who would not be pacifled after the strange hands of those women and very much atraid of being involved in

> "What are you doing to my stewardess?" said the Captain of the City of ----, who had

"Oh, Captain Stebbit, Captain Stebbit!"

Captain Stebbit, who was the jelliest, most good-humored man in the world. "What establish their headquarters, whence they would almost certainly prevent a fire of has my stewardess been doing? She is no could sanuggler. Here,' added be, turning to his notes. smuggier. Here,' added he, turning to his companion, "your ship is close at hand; companion, "your ship is close at hand; could you not step on board and bring us your stewarless. They are frightening Mrs. Ford into fits, and she needs a friend to look Ford into fits, and she needs a friend to look into fits fits a look into fits. Ford into fits, and she needs a friend to look after her. You know Mrs. Lock very well,

she will come to you. The summons to Mrs. Lock was answered by herself immediately, and in consequence of her presence, Mrs. Seaton, who had her is a few distance of the presence, and the letters in Mrs. to go at large."

to go at large."

to go at large."

"But if I produce it, they will take me

sure, when you know it, you will leave the under-stewardess to fix up all around, and just do as I ask. Now, listen; my husband felt had been put upon her made her abso"She would be certain! lutely a hamed to be seen, and even when good-humored Captain Stebbit paid her a visit, and joked with her about smugglers and searchers she was too much overcome

to reply.

Unconsciously that same evening she put "Oh, never frighten yourself," replied Mrs. Seaton with her bland smile; "it is nothing of any consequence. You must know that he holds a situation under the left that Mrs. Seaton gave me. What shall

"She will come for them I expect," repli-ed Mrs. Lock, when she had heard the story

"I would keep them till she does."

The next day she had another unpleasant surprise. The saloon-steward of her own ship paid her a visit, having gossip about passengers to impart: "Do you know what happened to that friend of yours, that fellow Seaton?" w S ston ?"

"Yes; I know he was arrested. That is how I got in trouble;" and Mrs. Ford proceeded to repeat to Mr. Park the particulars which Mrs. Seaton had confided to her.
"A very pretty story," laughed Mr. Park; only it happens that none of it is true, but the arrest. He was caught, and detained on the arrest.

a charge of forgery."
The two stewardesses, dumb with the unexpected news, stared inquiringly at Mr.

"Yes," continued he, "on a charge of helonging to a gang of forgers who have been passing counterfeit greenbacks, I suppose you know nothing about that, Mrs. Ford? Not an accomplice, hey?" Mrs. Ford hesitated a moment, and then

drawing from her pocket the letters entrust-ed to her, she showed them to the others, and asked what she had better do.

The steward examined their exterior for moment; then, without any remark, opened and read them in anxious silence, the wo hedi's looking on in a state of suspense, He had no sooner read them than he tore them carefully into the minutest fragments and stattered them out of the cabin window, where the tiny morsels fluttered away, and were soon lost beyond all possibility of detection in the waters of the dock.

"What were they?" gasped Mrs. Ford, in great alarm.
"Evidences of his guilt, which, found on ron, would have been considered proof you vere an accomplice, and given you a share of his probable twenty years in the states

den't say so! Why, my dear, what an es-

the great gateway and prepared to quit the wharf in mental triumph.

"It is not Mr. Green," replied a voice outside. "I want to speak to you. Mrs. Ford.

May I come in?"

"This way if you pleast ladies," said another officer, who now stepped forward to meet them. "We must trouble you to walk this way to a minute. Allow now and prepared to quit the into any one at present."

Way, you might have made your fortune them to any one at present."

Way, you might have made your fortune wharf in mental triumph.

It is not quite clear in my own mind wheth. by it. We would have given you any share of the profits you liked to name, to get it present."

On, certainly, madam," was the immethe innocent should suffer, it

"You must get rid of it, certainly," cried Mr. Park, in great alarm, "There is no move her outer clothing.

"It is no use indeed," said Mrs. S aton, telling what it may be. Get rid of it at

"But how? My box is locked, and I have the keys. Shall I go on board at once, and "No, no. It might lead to suspicion, if

you went off in a hurry. If they think you are a confederate, you will be watched, and which she had on her arm. it would not do for me, either to go and its. Ford' you and I know it meddle with your trunk."

The three felt almost as if they were conspirators and forgers themselves, as they deberated over what could be done to secure the parcel they believed so dangerons. Mrs. Lock and the steward, influenced by a not unnatural curiosity, were extremely anxious to inspect the mysterious package; but Mrs. Ford, who, in the event of discovery, nothing so much as being assured it was forever coaccaled from sight. Let it be what it would, all she desired was that it should be removed from the top of her trunk, and

- the assistant stewardess sent their eabin-boy to inquice for Mrs. Ford, and ask some questions in the way of duty. This was a favorable opportunity. Mrs. Ford sent off her keys by the boy Albert, and revately to open her trunk take the

The evening after Mrs. Ford's return to

"How do you know it is a dreadful before we make it leap over. We can throw it away any time."

tents were equally dangerous and wicked, dreadul strape, had yet so great a euriosity that she was not altogether unwhen Mr. Park joined them, they unfas- concrete house, is short, is a building tened the cord and opened the package. Hum, I thought so," said, Mr. Green, as they unwrapped a copper plate for printing

forged ten-dollar notes, "I don't understand what it is," said

"Don't be in a hurry," said Mr. Green.

could conveniently circulate these false

produce this, you will convict him at once,

"Now, there's a good soul," cried Mrs. Lock hurried her friend away on acton, "do say you will, right away. I board her own boat, and Mrs, Scaton was in trouble, I am in trouble; and I am left to her own devices.

"She would be certainly detained here after we sail," said Mr. Park, "and so loose her situation, perhaps, or at any rate, have a whole peck of trouble; and, being English, I think she might, likely enough, have some difficulty in establishing her perfect instance. I would throw it away, if I were she." So the dangerous article was tossed out of the window, and fell with asplash out of the window, and fell with asplash out of the waters of the dock, where it no into the waters of the dock waters of the conductor made his appearance collecting the train had already started. The train had already started

Seaton who, it had appeared, had a few other aliases for suitable occasions, would not have been discharged in one week, as he actually was, in default of evidence, and set at liberty to begin some other fraudulen!

It was not till after his discharge that Mrs. Ford ventured to put her foot ashore, so terribly was she alarmed, lest she should be, in some way, involved in his guilt. But be, in some way, involved in his guilt. But one evening, a few days before the city of me evening, a few days before the city of me evening, a few days before the city of me evening, a few days before the city of me evening, a few days before the city of the city of Paris, exposing the great shuges and start, she did venture into the city, under the escort of Mrs. Lock. To her great surprise, as they were walking up Broadway, they met Mrs. Seaton herself, who, instead of trying to avoid her stopped and spoke to her. There was not much coordiality on the part of the Raglish woman, but Mrs. Seaton was perfectly composed and friendly, and assured her that it had all come about just as she had expected. Her husband had been set at liberty, and was now quite well, and so was Freddy; and she would be glad if the stewardess would come and see them; and would she bring that little pared she left on board the steamer?

Mrs. Ford looked her full in the face, equality amazed at her audacity, and enraged at the injury so marly done to herself.

"It you wish for that parcel," she ropled, as soon as she could speak, "you must look for it at the bottom of the dock, for you will lind it in no box of mine."

A dark expression nessed over Mrs. Son.

tind it in no box of mine."

ou, would have been considered proof you cere an accomplice, and given you a share if his probable twenty years in the states rison." "Hush, hush!" said Mrs. Scaton frightened at her language, and glancing at her companion. "On't talk of forgeries, pray; there's no occasion to be angry;

you have been in no danger; you are quite

"I have been in danger, and I am not mis-taken; Mrs. Lock knows as well as I, what that parcel was. And we threw it out into the dock, having no mind at all to be concerned in your business. So you will

never see it again."
"And if you knew what it was, were you really such a fool as to throw it away?

profits or your prisons, Mrs Seaton," ex-

not have again in a hurry. I can tell you." And so saying she walked away. Nor have acterizing it as "the union of a comet and a they ever met since.

Ind mbustible Houses.

The face at Chicago has shown the great seed there is of some incombustible materint of sufficient durability and cheapness to in cities. Isolated fire-proof blocks, soheat of a great fire when driven on by a strong wind. We must have something which will not burn, from which to make our warehouses, stores, shops and houses, or every large city will be in continual danger of a fate like to that which has overtaken the great city of the Northwest.

It has been suggested that buildings made of concrete possess the desired qualities. The artificial stonek nown as coencrete is generally made of six parts of small gravel, brok-The first two ingredients are to be found every where. The cement, when made ar-tificially, consists of from twenty to twentyfive per cent, of silica, with eighty to sev-enty-five per cent of lime or of chalk, pure elsy and the sand. The United States is the only country where nature has compounded the materials herself, farnishing ment ready for use. It is found in large quantities in New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Kentucky, and Ohio.

The bailings proposed are to be of con-rete throughout. The floors are to be of from is to be used alone for supports g the floor and root and for bracing the

milding. Concrete by Illings aircady, have had their apatallities fully tested by use. The public addings at Cherbourg, Marseides, Tou-on, Woolwigh, Dover, Alderney and Eldytone, together with several on our own out, an built of concrete. It is frequenty used he England for foundation walls. The immense sheds of the Metropolitan allway company at West Brampton, the Colege of Surgeons, and Wellington barracks, and many bear es in Pail Matl, Lincoln's Field, St. Jame's park, and elsewhere n London, are built of it. In Spain and the ion of common houses. In Sweden and Northern Germany it is largely used for building purposes, the dwelling houses built of it baving double walls, which protect the inmates from vermin and produce a more

quable inside temperature.

Many advantages are claimed for concrete buildings over those made of brick and stone. People who have lived in them To own the truth Mrs. Ford herself, al- think them stronger, more even in temperthough perfectly convinced that the con- stare and more quiet (because the concrete is a non-conductor of heat and of sound), and cheaper then ordinary houses. Abov all, they are incombustible—a fire which would destroy the furniture in one room willing to proceed to an investigation. So not affecting the contents of the next, A fire-proof compartments, which is said to fully equal in every other respect to buildings made of ordinary material

The time must come when the kind of buildings now in vogue will give her trank, having a misgiving whether it are many to me; they to occur and the control of the circumstances. Her she was half choked by her tears.

Mr. Green explained, and added, that he ger of his decided to a block of concrete houses in Chicago, placed the structure of the circumstances. Her she was half choked by her tears. Mr. Green explained, and added, that he ger of fire better safeguards are needed. A block of concrete houses in Chicago, placed val, with this plate, to proceed over the city. A multitude of such buildings, seat wide extent.

> "Don't be in a hurry," said Mr. Green.
> "Look here; this man is in prison now, adopting concrete for building purposes, or and they want to find evidence. If you finding out some other incombustible, cheap if you destroy it, you allow him, perhaps serve our property, our precious things and to go at large."

PERSONAL.

Prof. Huxley, who has for a long time been in the van of the free thinkers of Eng-land, and who has been as material as the most materialistic could desire, has recently

Jules Ferry, who is officially announced as the French Minister to this country, was born at Saint Die (Vosges), April 5, 1832, and joined the Paris bar in 1861. He because one of the editors of the Gazette des Tribuneux, a leading legal journal of Paris. In 1865 he joined the editorial staff of Le Temps, and wrote vigorously on political subjects, evincing marked ability in financlai questions. He acquired great civic fame by his warfare against the administration of

A dark expression passed over Mrs. Seaton's face, as she answered: "Do you mean you threw it away woman? How dared you are wort" is the Marquis of Bath—John Alexander Thynne, whose tarnily dates its ancestry from the time of King John. His lord ship has long been in the half-way house of How dared you to try to bring me into your scrapes? I am not at all obliged to you, I can tell you, and don't ever with to you. of the journey. He is the patron of eleven livings in the Church of England.

France appears to take the downfall of the empire naturally; but we are mistaken if we do not already see a disposition in Paris to shed Thiers for Napoleon.

A gentleman who conversed with Mrs. Lincoln, in Caicago, a few days since, says she is in excellent health, but overwhelmed with grief at the loss of her son Thaddeus. He had grown to be a tall and handsome boy, speaking French and German fluently, and had never had a day's sickness while abroad, but the moment he reached New York he was so affected by the heat that he never recovered from the change. says he was one of the most affectionate children she ever knew, hardly ever leaving her side, except when at school, and then coming in every evening to dine with her at Frankfort. He was a great American and leved to talk of his country. Wherever he went he was a favorite. A few days before his death he told his mother he

Victor Hugo neglects no opportunity or said Mrs. Scaton, with an impertinent laugh. occasion however slight or remote, of ventagon have thrown away a chance you will log his astonishing utterances. Thus he has adorned Gambetta's marriage by char-

> Some literary Paul Pry has been inspecting Bismarck's library, where he saw among a preponderance of German books Hepworth Dixon's "New America," Lecky's "History of Rationalism in Europe.' Mantaigne, Rabelais, and—Heaven save the mark!—Paul de Kock's "Pucelle rope. de Betleville."

The Baronet-butcher claimant in the Tichborne case, is suffering from a severe attack of bronchitis. He is in excellent medical hands, but his friends are not a little anxious as regards his present state of

Hon, John Miles Standish, Chief Engineer of the Comberland and Pennsylvania. Railroad, died at Frostburg, Maryland, a tew days ago. Mr. Stundish was the eighth lineal desc-indent of the noted Miles Stan-dish of Paritan fame.

The Golden Accessys that James Gordon Bennett, of the Herald, has so greatly failed in health and strength that he now takes almost no interest in anything, and is gliding gently into help'ersness and second childnood.

It is said that the misunderstanding which existed last session between Representatives Farnsworth and Butler has been satisfactorily adjusted. At all events there will no renewal of hostilities in this direction. Gea. Farnsworth preferring to refrain from conversation respecting the topic, declaring that the Butler-Farnsworth matter was all right and would not be revise I.

Thomas Ducey, of Lowell, Massachusetts, became a happy father for the thirty-fourth time, a few days ago. He is ninety years old, and is bying with his third wife. He came to this country twenty-seven years ago, bringing his wife and eleven children, aving two in the old country and one having died. The first wife died soon after his arrival. By a second he had seventeen children, and by the present wife three.

The Emperor William has been on a five ay's hunning excursion, dressed in "perfeetly-fitting scarlet swallow-tail, white cords, dark buff tops and black hat."

The Marquis Doliasi de Tempu has been condemned to death in Cuba for favoring the cause of the patriots. Also, Jose Varona, of Puerto Principe.

Donaldson & Fraley, Third and Olive, St. Louis, Mo. Bankers, Brokers and Stock auctioneers, buy and sell State, county, city and railroad bonds, and stocks The best paying investment in the United States are Missouri county bonds, such as Lincoln, Ralls, Livngston, Chorrion, Lafayette, Benton 10 per cent United States 5:20 taken in Exhange at marker rates. All information in regard to bonds furnished gratis. Buy gold. ilver, U. S. bonds, land warrants, college scrip, commercial paper ate

SPONGE: PAPER -A French novelty is said to have all the peculiarities of sponge, absorbing wa'er readily, and remaining moist a long time. It has been used as a dressing for wounds with considerable advantage. For its fabrication, evenly and finely divided sponge is added to ordinary paper pulp, and this is worked, as in a common paper-making apparatus, into sheets of different thicknesses.

Gen. Read, American consul-general of Paris, has come into possession of a breastpin once worn by Gen. Washington, given him to Gen. Jackson, by Gen. Jackson King Joseph Bonsparte, by the ex-Kini to Comte Stanislaus de Girardin, by the un to his son who sent it to General Read as a souvenir of the siege of Paris.

The latest London announcement is a nos nachine, by which homely noses are pressed into the most fashionable shapes, according

A TRAVELER'S STORY.

"Is this seat engaged, sir?"
I glanced up from the paper I was reading and met the smiling regard of a genial looking gentleman in the prime of life.

"It is not, sir."

"It is unwise, unsafe." "Why do you consider it so?" I inquired with curiosity, returning the wallet to my pocket.

"Supposing, through carelessness, or, we may say accident, your walletis lost. Your pocket may be picked, for instance."
"Yes."

"Y money and ticket are both gone cold beauties of such a position; I do not think it possible except by experience."

"It would certainly be an undesirable situation. I can see that clearly enough. Par-

not waken until the conductor came for my ticket. The essential piece of pasteboard could not be found. I was positive I had purchased a ticket; indeed, I remembered

distinctly having shown it to the baggage clerk at the time of checking my trunk. The conductor grew impatient, passed to be other end of the car, and returned to me. I had made the discovery that my pocket-book had been picked, and in proof of my story showed him my baggage check.

It was useless. If you have traveled much you are aware that a virtuous conducfor takes no man's word; in fact, all men have designs upon the company's dividends except himself. It was perfectly natural, therefore, that the faithful steward in ques-

tion should say:
"The check is all right; but how do I

ed to nothing, and my fellow passengers, with the usual tendency of humanity to trample upon a fillen man, showed clearly by their looks and expressions that they thought me a sneaking rogue, who would steal a passage if he could. They paid money, why should not I? Few men would the hitherto unfarhomed abysses of the ever see heaven if Judgment was rendered by jury-except them elves.

My search for the lost ticket had brought

stranger there.
In due time I found myself at Land-rdale; money, and wrote an explanatory letter to try. It is said that the officials at the state my partner. This business attended to, I department are very much annoyed at the sailied out to see what sort of a place Lau- transaction. to do but amuse myself as best I could until make the most of my involuntary holiday. As I strolled leisurely up the main street, a Fidelity Safe depository, is entitled to no newsboy darted out of a paper office, cry-

Daily Banner, extra edition, all about the murder-great accident on the E - Road," itc. "Have an extra?"

I took the sheet and thrust my hand in my pocket for the money, without a moment's thought. You may imagine my feelings when compelled to return that two-penny bit of paper to the boy, with the muttered excuse that

I had no change, and the utter contemptuous expression on the boy's face as he received it. I immediately stepped into the office of the Daily Banner and wrote a paragraph of my recent mishap, taking care to make it as amusing as possible. When complete I handed it to the clerk. He read it, laughed, and took it into the private office . Coming back, a few minutes atter, he told they formerly imported from France are the bookkeeper to give me fifty cents. It was not much, but more than I expe-Weil, I continued my walk, until I finally reached the end of the street, which termin ates at the S- river, here spanned by a

long covered bridge, and was surprised to see upon rerelating the opposite side that I would be required to pay tell. A young girl would be required to pay toll. A young girl dent ladies as they may wish to know. The came up to the door of the little effice, as I | Consul's wife must also be called on first, as

the laugh that rose to my lips, and thanking her for the consideration shown to the clerger. I turned about and retraced my steps to Rome how is a resident to know? the hotel not without slight twinges of con-science for all wing the mistake to pass, and taking the advantage of it.

My first duty next morning was to seek some knight of the razor. I had noticed a pleasant little shop at no great distance from the hotel in my walk the previous day. Thinking that I should do no better by looking further, I repaired to that. There was in attendance a boy about twelve years of age, who stated that his father, the proprietor of the shop, had gone to a neighboring city, and would not return before noon. of a razor, and proceeded to operate on my self. While thus occupied, the customers began to present themselves, expressing great dissatisfaction on learning how matters stood, Now although I am a proud man, I am not, thank God cursed with that species of vanity which prevents a man's doing certain kinds of honest labor, simply because they are not genteel. Here was an opportunity afforded me to at least earn the rice of my breakfast. I took advantage o Told the first man who entered after had completed shaving myself, I would shave him. I did so. In fact, I did quite a brisk business for a couple of hours; and if any of the unfortunate individuals who came under my hand had any doubt of my fitness for the business they certainly expressed none. At the expiration of this time I began to think I had done sufficient, and feeling rather hungry, having had no break-fast, I divided the proceeds with the boy. and prepared to return to my hotel. But was not done yet. As I was brushing my hat a young dandified specimen of humanlast, I went to work upon him. When he came to pay me I was, to say the least, somewhat surprised to see him deliberately

produce my own pocket-boook—the one had lost. Standing on no ceremony I snatch ed it from his hand, and demanded, in n gentle tone, how it came in his possessio Without stopping to reply other than b

volley of imprecations, as he reached th

door, he tumbled rather than ran down the street. Waiting for neither hat nor coat, followed, the pocket-book in my hand. We measured off considerable space of ground mea-ured off considerable spaces of ground in a short space of time. On, on. It was an exciting chase. Men, boys, and dog joined the pursuit, the cries of "stop thief growing louder and increasing. What as uproar there was. Suddenly came a flast of light, sharp and vivid for an instant then utter darkness. A policeman, mistaking me for the thief, and gently tapping me upon the head, as their custom is, and with the usual result; the thief escaped, and the victim, was apprehended. My experi-

the victim, was apprehended. My experience told heavily against me; but my story being fully corroborated by the boy at the barber shop, I was released.

Upon examining the wallet, I found my own money intact, and about one hundred and thirty dollars besides. That is all the and thirty dollars besides. That is all the

"Not a fad speculation after all," said I as he concluded, "Well, perhaps so. No, it was not; but still my advice holds good. Never place a railway tieken in your walls!"

CENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

A curious but terrible disease, called meningitis, or inflamation of the membrane of the brain or spinal cord, has broken out at Tehuacana, in Limestone county, Texas. Out of ten cases in the last few days, nine had proved fatal in less than thirieen hours. The Tehuacana University has been sus-pended until the first of January, and the people of the town are fleeing to other parts of the county and State.

The flogging business goes on in Dela-ware. At Newcastle, a few days since, one man was flogged for the third time, "he man was flogged for the third time, "he didn't care for anything." Eight others were punished with twenty lashes each, and several in addition stood for an hour in the pilory. The offense of each was petty lar-ceoy. It may be proper to mention that Delaware still belongs in the United States.

The carriage used by the Grand Duke Alexis at New York is the private carriage of Mr. Van Ranset, and is probably the handsomest vehicle in the United States. It is a clarence, lined with maroon silk that cost \$16 per yard. The carriage, with its outfit, cost \$5,000. Admiral Poisset says: "It is the prettiest thing I ever rode in."

Professor Agassiz has written a letter with respect to the probable results of the deep-sea dredging expedition, that is certain "The check is all right; but now us know that it belongs to you? I will take the money for your fare or stop the train the proposition that science ought to be prophetic; that is, that all forms of creation prophetic; that is, that all forms of creation prophetics with an intelligent plan. that is shadowed forth in the mode of growth and other observable phenomena, and that types not yet seen should be deducted from those that have been seen. In corroboration of this theory, he then proceeds to register his predictions as to what will be found in the hitherto unfathomed abysses of the

tinctness. The Washington correspondent of a Bos-The was angrou correspondent of a bost to light about a dollar and eighty cents. This it on paper tells how the Catacazy correspondence got out. The documents came down in the usual way from the state department short of the usual fare to Lauderdale city, but that he would pass me through for it rather they were sent to the room of the Secretary than stop the train. From Lauderdale, a where they were instantly seized by a dozen city of much importance. I could write to egger reporters. As soon as Senator Cammy partner for money. It would certainly be as well as to tramp ten or twelve miles back to the city I had just left, and where I should be no better off, being equally a ing as executive and confidential documents stranger there.

of the Senate. He was too late to save the State secrets, however, and the country had went to the best hotel; telegraphed for the full advantage of the reporters, indus-

> The chronicling of brute shrewdness, connection with the fire, seeming to be the order of the day, a time Newfoundland dog belonging to Mr. Thomas R. Revan, of the tice. This sagscious animal, finding that building was in flames, and concriving it his duty to make a canine Casabianea of away, crawled behind one of the great safes of the establishment. He had beard, doubt-less of their being fire proof, and the result justified his discernment, for although he was badly scorehed, he lived to see the fire spend its fury, and emerged from his re-treat in tolerably good condition, one of the

happiest dogs in Chicage. The French manufacturers are suffering for their precipitancy. In the heat of the war they declared they would never execute orders for Germans. Latterly they have as Germany, and they find that the articles that no wproduced in Germany in equal elegance and not inferior quality.

Our country women visiting Rome in the future, if they wish to enter American society, viz, the general society of resident Americans, must not wait to be called onthey must leave their cards with such resistepped up and asked her how much I well as the Ambassador's wife. This fast stepped up and asked her how indead to should pay, drawing forth my solitary shin-plaster.

"Oh," said she, with a smile and a slight blush, "we do not charge ministers anything."

well as the Amongstein's wife. This tast should be described as wife. This tast wife of other nations requires this diplomatic ceremony, but it appears to be a size of a work with ours, and little vexing social mitches may occur it this is not attended to.

The the left the control of the That the last comer is the one to notify the For some ten days previous to his more

> of ill health showing itself in an inflamo tion of the finger, in which what is properly called a whitlow formed. Febrile symptoms supervened, which presently az-sumed a typhoid character. The Chicago fire is not the most fearful disaster of the present year. The Chinese floods, of which we have had brief accounts, submerged 20,000 square miles of territory, an area exceeding that of one-third of England and Wales. When the fact that the extremely dense population of China is ta-

> serious iliness, the Prince of Wales had

been more or less indisposed, the first #gns

ken into consideration, the appalling nature of the catastrophe will better be appreciapart of the empire, and was occasioned by breaking of the banks of a river. It appears from a report presented in the Swiss Statistical Society at the Congress re-cently held in Paris, that Switzerland can boast of twenty-five public libraries, containing altogether 920,520 volutees, and not fewer than 1,629 other libraries containing 687 936, volumes. The most extensive

tains 100 000 volumes, of Basle, which has 84,000 and of Lucerne with 80,000. The old Manassas battle field was sold a few days since for eight dellars an acre, When the war commenced it was ander a high state of improvement, and the dwelling house upon it was one of the finest in that section of the State; but then a scourge devastated it, and the open fields, ar pines, and shattered mansion-all now bear evidence to the bloody conflicts of which it

libraries are those of Zurich, which con-

was the scene. Radfield, Van Sickle & Co., Prov. and Com. Merchants, 507 N. 2d st., St. Louis.